

green city', that concept's relevance for local self-reliance, the global context of movements for sustainable societies and urban environmental rehabilitation, the politics of 'greening', and the potential for an international green-city movement. Case-study cities included London (England), Delft, Toronto, Buffalo, New York, San Francisco, University Park (Pennsylvania), Madison, Bombay, Calcutta, and Xalapa (Mexico).

Speakers on urban environmental issues in the developing countries stressed the international context that constrains their cities' economies. Nevertheless they pointed to the beginnings of environmental movements seeking, for instance, to establish ecologically-designed urban-fringe communities in a Mexican city. For Asia, reference was made to experiments in Bombay to combine environmental education with small gardens on traffic islands, and to the considerable 'unintended greening' that occurs as people establish kitchen gardens and other forms of urban agriculture out of necessity rather than ecological design. Mention was made of the 'informal' use of transformed wetlands for sewage treatment, fish polyculture, and 'garbage farming' in metropolitan Calcutta. A number of participants commented that there is need for much more discussion in future of the relationship between urban ecology concerns in modern cities of the developed countries and those of the rapidly-urbanizing countries.

The participants were exceptionally diverse, including academics and research workers, urban planners and architects, environmental consultants, landscape designers, university students, members of citizens' organizations, and representatives of municipalities and of provincial/state and federal governments. Naturally, most of the case-studies and information came from cities of affluent countries that are able to consider a range of options for redesigning public and private open-space. Nevertheless, all cities are under degrees of financial constraint, so that a number of speakers were at pains to point out that ecologically diverse 'greening' is cheaper to undertake and to maintain than is the manicured 'green deserts' of so many parks' programmes.

Interpretations of 'the green city' varied, but a large number of the speakers appeared to agree that 'greening' should include the twin concerns of ecological sanity and social justice, which should be applied both to rehabilitation of existing cities and to radical new approaches to new town planning. Inevitably, there were differences of opinion as to 'political' strategies, with some participants arguing for steady progress through the work of local groups, and others calling for an 'international green-city movement' that would bring together local advocates to apply pressure at national and international levels.

This was a hard-working meeting, with panels and working sessions running through the lunch-hours. In keeping with the spirit of the event, participants ate simple, boxed lunches that included salads, fruit, and whole-wheat bread.

The Pollution Probe Foundation, which is currently developing an 'ecology park' adjacent to its 'Ecology House' in Toronto, should be congratulated on conceiving of, and organizing, this meeting. The strenuous efforts of the convener, James Savage, to ensure a well-prepared, smooth-running event, were particularly appreciated. The Symposium was evaluated positively by the great majority of participants, who suggested, on the evaluation forms, many ideas for future events to encourage the sharing of information for ecologically-sustainable urban development. Pollution Probe is considering another meeting in two years' time. Meanwhile, they will publish a book based

on this Symposium. For further information, write to James Savage at the Pollution Probe Foundation, 12 Madison Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5R 2S1, Canada.

CHRISTINE FUREDY, *Associate Professor
Division of Social Science &
Faculty of Environmental Studies
York University
4700 Keele Street
North York, Ontario M3J 1P3
Canada.*

WORKSHOP ON 'FOREST DECLINE AND REPRODUCTION: GLOBAL AND REGIONAL CONSEQUENCES', HELD IN KRAKOW, POLAND, DURING 23-28 MARCH 1987

This Workshop, convened within the framework of the Dendrochronology, Biosphere, and Acid Rain, Projects of IIASA's Environment Program, was organized in cooperation with the Systems Research Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, and the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO), headquartered in Vienna. The objectives of the Workshop were: to seek a consensus about the status and knowledge of forest decline, especially in Europe; to identify the choices that international organizations, the forestry community, governments, and industry, must face; and to discuss ways to avoid further forest decline and facilitate the sustainability of the forest sector.

The Workshop was attended by some 100 senior scientists and agency representatives from East and West Europe, North America, Scandinavia, and Japan. In addition to receiving presentations of some 60 papers on forest decline, the Workshop organizers and a number of key speakers prepared a set of resolutions that were adopted by the Workshop participants. Briefly, the resolutions* call for reductions of air-pollutant emissions, improved monitoring of the extent and growth-rate of forest decline, more research in specific areas, and increased international co-operation.

Proceedings of the workshop are in preparation under the editorship of the scientists responsible for the meeting, namely Academician L. Kairiukstis (Deputy Leader, IIASA Environment Program), Professor S. Nilsson (principal investigator of the Forest Study of IIASA's Biosphere Project), and Professor A. Straszak, of the Systems Research Institute in Warsaw. These proceedings will represent the most complete description to date of pollution-induced forest decline throughout the world and particularly in Europe. Copies of the proceedings can be purchased from IIASA's Publications Department.

PETER N. DUINKER
*Biosphere Project, Environment Program
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
A-2361 Laxenburg, Austria.*

* See pp. 173-4 of this issue.—Ed.

IUCN/EEB'S FOURTH MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL CONSERVATION STRATEGIES (EC-NCS), HELD AT THE INSTITUT ROYAL DES SCIENCES NATURELLES, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, ON 22 APRIL 1987

The European Environmental Bureau (EEB) and the European Committee for National Conservation Strategies (EC-NCS) joined efforts in preparing this Meeting about

work done and/or to be undertaken in the context of European conservation strategies. Also, it was decided to hold the next meeting early in June in Lisbon, in conjunction with the Council of Europe's Fifth Ministerial Conference on the Environment. The following were the main items dealt with by the Meeting:

(1) Statements in the *'Draft regional strategy for environmental protection and rational use of natural resources in ECE member countries covering the period up to the year 2000 and beyond'*, such as about the importance of pollution costs, goals of soil protection, and the role of NGOs, are, in part, the result of EC-NCS's comments on an earlier draft. Further written comments received by 25 May next will be transmitted to the ECE Secretariat for consideration at an October meeting aiming at a final document for their Senior Advisers' 1988 Session.

(2) Accepted were EC-NCS comments about several versions of the *Council of Europe's European Conservation Strategy* and a *draft Resolution* including links with the World Conservation Strategy—also indicating responsibility to the extra-European environment, and to strategy implementation and monitoring. A small drafting group will prepare a joint EEB/IUCN statement for circulation at the Lisbon Ministerial Conference.

(3) The EC-NCS project, also sponsored by the European Cultural Foundation, includes as well a *Position paper* about needed complements, for example concerning industry, consumers, and local governments. At the Lisbon meeting, structure and content will be discussed and assignments coordinated.

(4) In the presence of a representative of the Environment Directorate of EEC, EEB informed the Meeting about an already-financed project concerning a *'Strategy for the Twelve'*, to be presented to the EC Commission towards the end of the European Year of the Environment. IUCN has discussed the elaboration of a *strategy of the EEC*, and the Lisbon meeting will consider further developments.

MAX BÖRLIN
Chairman, IUCN's EC-NCS
Chemin des Bosquets
CH-1297 Founex
Switzerland.

Important Prospect

SECOND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY CONGRESS IN BRAZIL, TO BE HELD IN SALVADOR, BAHIA, BRAZIL, DURING 16–18 SEPTEMBER 1987

This event is being organized by the Department of Analytical Chemistry of the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA) on behalf of the International Association of Environmental Analytical Chemistry and the Brazilian Chemical Society. The objectives are: (1) to integrate the international as well as the Brazilian scientific community dealing with Environmental Chemistry, for the exchange of scientific information; (2) to encourage specialists of other areas (Sanitary Engineers, Meteorologists, Biologists, Toxicologists, Oceanographers, Limnologists, Geologists, etc.) to indicate what they expect from the Environmental Chemists; and (3) to promote integration between university and other research institutions, industry and government, for the solution of environmental problems.

The themes covered in the Congress will be soil, aquatic, and atmospheric, chemistry; environmental techniques and cycles; and the effects of chemical substances on living components of The Biosphere. These will be presented as

plenary lectures delivered by invited scientists, shorter research lectures (15 minutes each), and poster presentations.

An exhibition of equipment and apparatus, books, and demonstrations of environmental protection programmes, will take place concurrently with the Congress. The official language will be English, though simultaneous interpretation into Portuguese will be provided. For further information please contact the undersigned.

TANIA M. TAVARES, *Chairman*
Instituto de Química da UFBA
Campus Universitário de Federação, s/n
40210 – Salvador
Bahia
Brazil.

Important Prospect

NINTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON TROPICAL ECOLOGY, TO BE HELD AT BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY, VARANASI, INDIA, DURING 11–16 DECEMBER 1987

Exploitation of natural resources, and human impact on the regenerative and productive potentials of ecosystems, have been especially exacerbated in the tropical regions by the human population explosion and the thrust for speedy economic development. The resultant problems of land degradation, environmental pollution, and the ever-growing susceptibility of natural ecosystems to Man-induced disruptive forces, call for formulation and implementation of strategies for sustainable development, and for harmonization of society–environment relations. Thus, the International Society for Tropical Ecology, established in 1956, is organizing its Ninth Symposium, with the focal theme of *Ecological Management of Tropical Ecosystems*.

The Symposium will include a number of presentations and sessions of invited lectures, contributed papers, and posters, covering a wide variety of subjects of global importance. These will involve such topics as land degradation and restoration, pollution, human ecology, plant geography, and Man's impact on forest, savanna, and aquatic and agricultural ecosystems, as well as environmental management, etc.

Besides local sightseeing trips, a major post-symposium tour to Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve and Silent Valley, covering a wide variety of ecobiomes ranging from dry to wet tropics, is being planned.

The Symposium will include a special session on 'Restoration of Degraded Ecosystems: A Global Issue' (Contact: Professor M.K. Wali, College of Environmental Science & Forestry, State University of New York, Syracuse, NY 13210, USA).

For further information please contact the undersigned joint Organizing Secretary. Two copies of an abstract of each proposed paper (or poster), typed double-spaced on A4 paper, should be submitted by 1 September 1987. The abstract should include: title (in capitals), name of author, address of author, and text not exceeding 250 words.

R.S. AMBASHT, *Organizing Secretary*
IX ISTE International Symposium
Department of Botany
Banaras Hindu University
Varanasi 221005
India.